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AF/3677

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3677  
PATENT**  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05711.0131

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Hideyuki MATSUSHIMA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3677  
Application No.: 09/994,631 ) Examiner: A. Jackson  
Filed: November 28, 2001 )  
For: SNAP FASTENER ) Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
APR 08 2004

**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2003, the period for response having been extended by a request for extension of two (2) months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.

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APR 07 2004  
**GROUP 3600**